

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Application No.: PCT/EP2004/012319  
International Filing Date: October 30, 2005  
Priority Date: December 23, 2003  
Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PREVENTING BLOCKAGES  
IN THE FLOW PATHS OF A SEPARATOR  
Inventor(s): Siegfried KLAPPER et al.

JUN 19 2006

BARNES & THORNBURG CUSTOMER NO.:

BOX PCT  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23646**  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST TO BEGIN NATIONAL EXAMINATION

Sir:

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated Office after publication and before 30 months from the priority date the following items under 35 U.S.C. § 371:

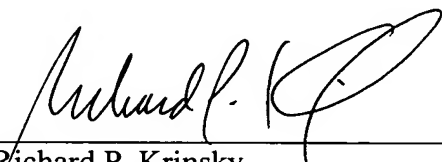
- I. This is an express request to immediately begin national examination procedures under 35 U.S.C. § 371(f).
- II. A Preliminary Amendment, including a Substitute Specification and a marked-up copy of the Substitute Specification (26 pages) including two (2) Annotated Drawing Sheets (Figs 1 and 2). **PLEASE ENTER THE PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE CALCULATING ANY FEES DUE.**
- III. The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED, LESS ANY CLAIMS  
CANCELLED OR ADDED BY AMENDMENT

For	No. Filed		No. Extra	Large/Small Entity	Total
National Stage Basic Fee:				+\$300/150=	\$ 300.00
National Stage Search Fee:				+\$400/200	\$ 400.00
National Stage Examination Fee:				+\$200/100	\$ 200.00
Total Claims:	21	- 20 =	1	x \$50/25 =	\$ 50.00
Independent Claims:	1	- 3 =	0	x \$200/100 =	\$ 0.00
<b>TOTAL FEES:</b>					<b>\$ 950.00</b>

IAP12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 JUN 2006

- IV. A check for the filing in the amount of \$950.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 02-1010 (677/44950).
- V. An English Translation of the International Application PCT/EP2004/012319 (14 pages) including cover page and 2 sheets of Drawings.
- VI. An Assignment with a check in the amount of \$40.00.
- VII. A Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- VIII. Amendments to the Drawings (Figs 1 and 2).
- IX. An Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO-1449 with 22 cited references.



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**10/583563**

The PTO did not receive the following  
listed item(s)

NO POST CARD